



Attorney Docket No.: SMD-125

**COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION
AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

(includes reference to PCT International Applications)

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X

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first, and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:
SMOKING ARTICLES WITH REDUCED IGNITION PROCLIVITY CHARACTERISTICS
the specification of which

() is attached hereto.

(X) was filed on January 23, 2002 as Application Serial No.
10/055,027 and was amended on N/A.
(if applicable)

() was filed as PCT International Application No. _____
on _____ and was amended under PCT Article 19 on _____.
(If applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign/PCT Application(s)
(if PCT, indicate "PCT" under Country)

Priority Claimed

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/Month/Year Filed</u>	<u>() ()</u> Yes No
<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Day/Month/Year Filed</u>	<u>() ()</u> Yes No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code Section 120 of any United States application(s) or PCT International Application(s) designating the United States of America listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in such prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, Section 1.56, which became available between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial No.
or PCT Application No. U.S. or PCT Status -- Patented
(and any assigned USSN) Filing Date Pending, or Abandoned

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named Inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Wellington M. Manning, Jr.	Registration No. 22,376
Julian W. Dority	Registration No. 20,268
James M. Bagarazzi	Registration No. 29,609
Richard M. Moose	Registration No. 31,226
Stephen E. Bondura	Registration No. 35,070
Timothy A. Cassidy	Registration No. 38,024
Jeffrey M. Karmilovich	Registration No. 35,915
Frances Barnes Elliott	Registration No. 41,598
J. Bennett Mullinax	Registration No. 36,221
John E. Vick	Registration No. 33,808
Jason W. Johnston	Registration No. 45,675
Tim F. Williams	Registration No. 47,178
Charles F. Ducker, Jr.	Registration No. 46,542
Neal P. Pierotti	Registration No. 45,716
Bernard S. Klosowski	Registration No. 47,710
Timothy D. St. Clair	Registration No. 48,316
Steven R. LeBlanc	Registration No. 47,740
Christina L. Mangelsen	Registration No. 50,244

Send Correspondence to:

Atty: Timothy A. Cassidy
Dority & Manning, P.A.
P. O. Box 1449
Greenville, SC 29602-1449

Direct Telephone Calls to:

Atty: Timothy A. Cassidy
(864) 271-1592
FAX (864) 233-7342

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

THOMAS A. KRAKER

(Full name of sole inventor)

Thomas A. Kraker

Inventor's Signature

3/19/02

Date

Residence: Alpharetta, Georgia

Citizenship: UNITED STATES

Post Office Address: 11015 Pinehigh Drive, Alpharetta, Georgia 30022